

Bricks and Pieces

A newsletter about LEGO for LEGO collectors



Top Award for LEGO



At the Brighton Toy Fair in January, Leslie Crowther presented the highly prized Toy of the Year Award to LEGO's General Manager, David Brown.

This award is voted for by toy shop owners all over the country. I daresay that it will be no surprise to LEGO enthusiasts to hear that LEGO won it for 1974. It was a very happy night for us and you can imagine that Leslie Crowther kept everyone laughing!

The Brighton Fair

Did you know there's a Toy Fair at Brighton every year in January? It is the time when the toy makers show off their new ideas to toy trade buyers from all over the world.

Unfortunately it is not open to the public. You have to wait until you can see the new toys in the shops later in the year.

Of course the toy makers have to start work much earlier than that in order to have everything ready for the Toy Fair. For example all our new LEGO sets for 1976 are already designed now and we are starting work on 1977 and 1978!

I wish I could tell you about some of the exciting things we've got planned for you, but that must remain a secret. Still, there are lots of exciting things in this year's leaflet to keep you busy aren't there?

One of my favourites is the Wild West Set No. 365. What's yours?



Whoopee!
The LEGO
stage coach
is in town.

Wow! When we sent out Bricks and Pieces No. 1 last Christmas I had not expected to get quite such a big response.

I have tried to write to all of you who sent in photographs of models or asked questions but I am afraid I simply could not write to all those who sent me a nice letter saying how much they enjoyed the magazine and wishing us success. So let me take this chance of thanking you all for your letters and Christmas cards etc.

Well, here is Bricks and Pieces No. 2 at long last. I hope you enjoy reading it and that you will find lots of new things to interest you in the 1975 leaflet. (What about those super Hobby Sets? I bet a lot of you can hardly wait until they come into the shops in September. They really are quite a challenge to build and will keep you—and your Dad?—busy for several hours).

Please keep sending me pictures of your models, but do make sure your name and address is on the back and that they are nice and clear and sharp so that they can be printed if selected for issue No. 3 which I hope to be able to send you before Christmas.

Until then happy building!

The Editor

Clive Nicholls



2. News from LEGO

Gulliver in LEGOLAND



This display showing Gulliver towing the Lilliputian fleet back into harbour was one of the talking points of the Brighton Toy Fair in January.

Gulliver of course is not for sale. We just made him to show off what can be done with LEGO.

The display was 3 metres square and all the houses had lights in so you can imagine how colourful it looked in the bright LEGO colours. It took LEGO designers Ken Jones and David Lyall over 2 months to build.

The picture of Gulliver himself with

his creator, David Lyall, gives you a good idea of how big he was. Notice too the Lilliputian sitting on Gulliver's shoulder. He of course is built from one of the figures from the LEGO family (set No. 200). Don't you think it was clever of David to get Gulliver to lean forward simply by building one leg shorter than the other? Perhaps you can think of other models where this trick would be useful?

That is one of the pleasures of building with LEGO—you are always finding new ways of building things.

New Free Gifts for Golden Studs

Many of you have asked for new gifts for your Golden Studs. As you will see from the leaflet we are now offering basic things like bricks and wheels and windows—things you can never have too many of no matter how many Golden Bricks you complete.

I'm afraid that you cannot exchange Golden Studs for anything other than the gifts offered and when I tell you that since Christmas we have had over 40,000 claims you will understand why we simply cannot handle individual requests!

Perhaps you will also realise why some of you had to wait such a terribly long time to get your gifts. We had not expected such a fantastic response and we simply couldn't keep pace with it. So if you were kept waiting a long time I hope you will forgive us.



SPECIAL OFFER Exclusive to readers of Bricks and Pieces.

6 new mini figures.
Yours for 30p + 10p postage and packing.

Lots of collectors have asked about the little mini figures which appeared in January in some of the new LEGO-LAND mini packs. Generally they are not available by themselves but we are making up packs containing 6 assorted figures specially for our readers.

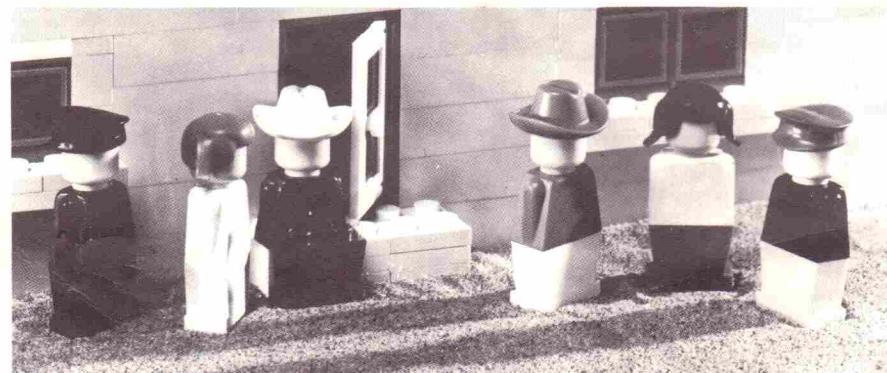
These are only available in the stan-

dard selection shown so please do not write and ask if you can have 3 with cowboy hats instead of 2 or anything like that because we have to import these specially from Denmark so we cannot offer any variations from the standard.

You can order as many packs as you

like on one order slip up to a maximum of 6 and orders will only be accepted on the special order slip attached. There are no Golden Studs in these special packs of course.

We think you'll find that these little figures will add a lot of liveliness to your LEGO models.



Here are the six mini figures you can get. Two have cowboy hats, two have caps and two have girls' wigs. All are in different colours and you can swap the hats, bodies and legs around to suit yourself.

Please send me (number) of Special Offer packs at 40p each.

I enclose a cheque/postal order for

NAME _____
(block capitals)
ADDRESS _____

3. News from Enthusiasts

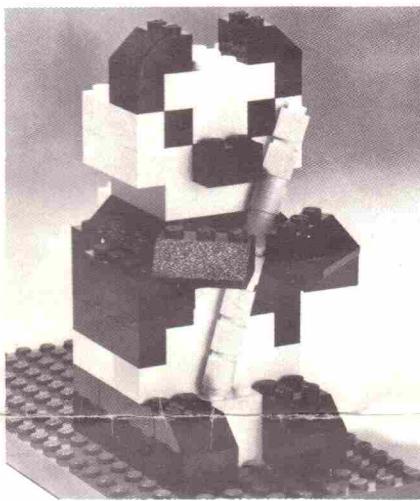
Katherine's prize panda

In January the Financial Times newspaper ran a competition for LEGO builders to see who could build the best model of a panda.

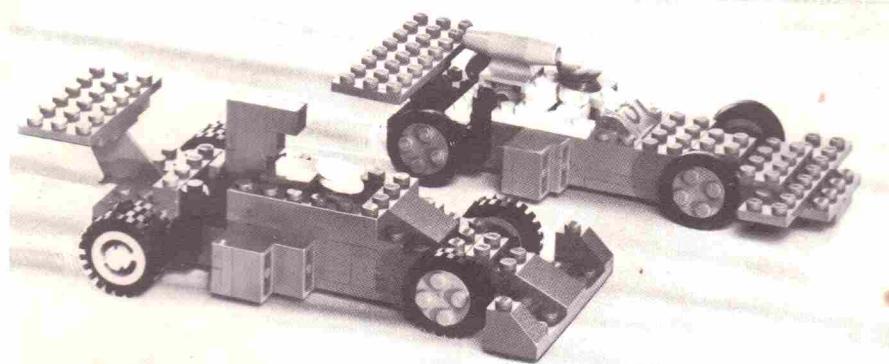
Katherine Kaye age 8 of London SE26 was the winner with this model of a panda eating a bamboo shoot and she won a big box of LEGO.

Pandas are not very easy to build but Katherine and many other children built some really attractive and very clever models.

How about building a really fearsome dragon? I'll send a box of LEGO for any photos of dragons which I print in Bricks and Pieces No. 3. Send black and white photos but make sure your name, age and address is on the back and that the picture is really sharp and clear.



Super racing cars



It's not only children who build with LEGO you know. Mr. W. Dowlen of Huddersfield has sent me photographs of several little models of racing cars he has built. Here are two of them, a Lotus and a Brabham. They may be tiny but I

think they are great.

Notice how he has built the air scoops with the bricks sideways on. A very clever technique and all done with standard LEGO parts and no cheating. But please don't ask me how he has done it!

Mantelpiece Models for Christmas



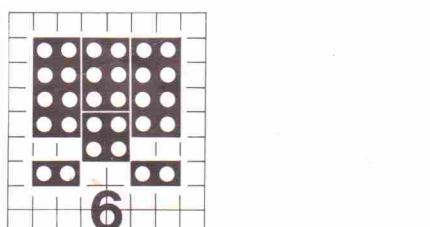
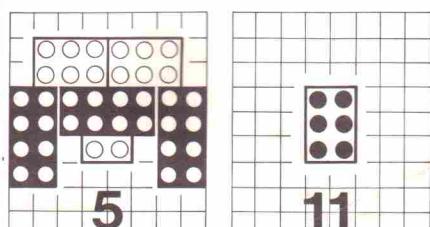
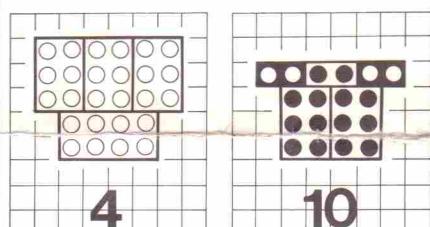
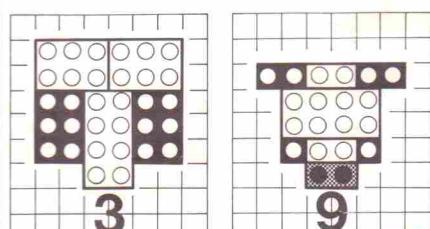
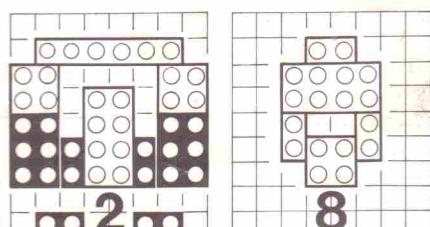
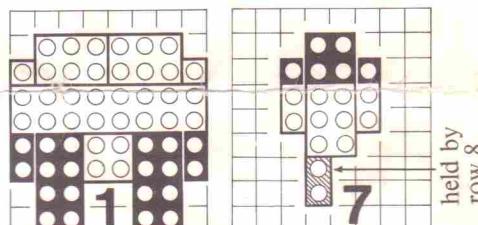
10 year old Catherine Zollman of Walton-on-Thames had the bright idea of using LEGO in the Christmas crib she built all along the mantelpiece. Mary & Joseph were of Plasticene in a polystyrene manger but the wise men and shepherds were made from LEGO and very colourful they looked too.

What is it?

Here is a puzzle model for you to build. I bet you can't guess what it will turn out to be before you build it.

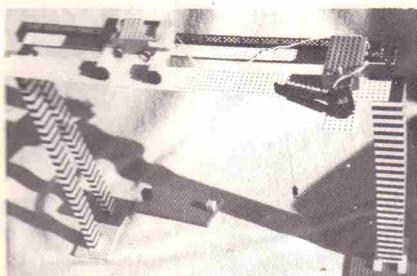
Follow the instructions very exactly and I think you'll get a pleasant surprise.

●●	= Black brick
○○	= White brick
●●	= White slimbrick
●●	= Black slimbrick
●●	= Red slimbrick



4. The Model Page

Goliath



Goliath is the name of the huge crane at the Harland & Wolff shipyard in Belfast. John Hearst is 12 and lives in Bangor, N. Ireland and he has built a motorised crane which travels along the gantry of his LEGO Goliath.

I bet you had fun playing with that model as well as building it, John.

Pop Group



Kirsty Macpherson of Bishops Stortford built this pop group. Notice the drums built from turntables, the clever microphone and the way the singer is "swinging" by bending his leg slightly. Beautifully detailed, Kirsty!

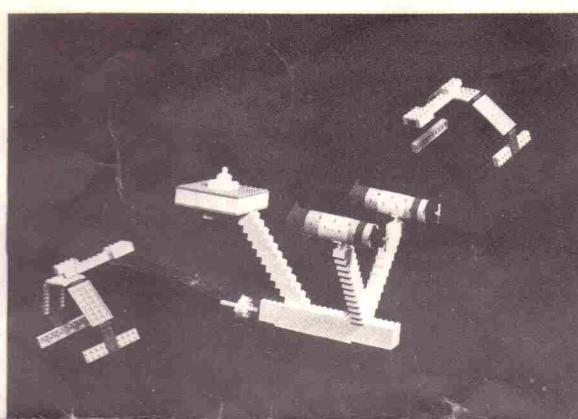
Two-man bob sleigh



Models don't have to be big to make the pages of Bricks and Pieces. Here is a tiny model but it is imaginative, well designed and lots of fun. It also shows how the new mini figures make a model come to life.

Credit for it is shared by the brothers Peter, Alan and David Gillam of Crosby, Liverpool, though I can't quite imagine how there was room for six hands to work on such a neat little model!

The Klingons attack!



Just look at those sinister Klingon craft attacking the Star Ship Enterprise! Tommy Blackband of Birmingham is only 7 but he certainly knows how to get drama and excitement from his LEGO bricks. Those Klingon ships terrify me, Tommy!

How about a Chess Set suggests David Lyall

LEGO model maker David Lyall has designed this simple chess set for you. He says it will look good in red and white if you haven't enough black bricks. You could even build your own chess board using black and white tile bricks (S29) if you like!

